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JOHN AND MARTHA DANIELS



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John Lewis Abbot

Christmas 1924

from WRA }
}

To Philly on
a Birthday -
from her Pa -
Louis Haggin
gave this to Wm
& I pass it on to
you, doubting that
the good Dame
really wrote it.

J L A -

Elizabeth Abbot Laughner - Nov. 10, 1969

John Lewis Abbott

Christmas 1854

My dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

Wm. L. G. Abbott

Secretary of the Board of Commissioners

of the Massachusetts State Prison

at the State Prison, Boston

Mass.

THE
TREATYSE OF FYSSHYNGE
WYTH AN ANGLE.

THE

TREATISE OF HYGIENE

WITH AN APPENDIX





The Treatyse
Of Fysshynge wyth an Angle.

ATTRIBUTED TO

DAME JULIANA BERNERS,

REPRINTED FROM

THE BOOK OF ST ALBAN'S. 1496

LONDON:

PRINTED WITH THE TYPES OF JOHN BASKERVILLE, FOR

WILLIAM PICKERING.

1827.

EMPRYNTED AT WESTMESTRE,
BY WYNKYN THE WORDE,
THE YERE OF THYNCARNAON OF OUR LORDE
MCCCCLXXXVI.

REPRINTED BY THOMAS WHITE, CRANE COURT,
MDCCCXXVII.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following "Treatyse of Fyffhynges wyth an angle," is not only the earliest, but by far the most curious essay upon the subject which has ever appeared in the English, or perhaps in any other language.

It seems to have been first printed by Wynkyn de Worde, in his edition of the Book of St. Alban's in 1496; and, judging from its orthography and language, it was evidently written in the middle of the fifteenth century. An attempt has been made by the editor of the reprint of that work, to prove, from the following passage, that it was originally composed about that time, "Now thenne woll I dyscryve the sayd dysportes and gamys to fynde the beste of theym as veryly as I can: alle be it that the ryght noble and full worthy pryncce the duke of Yorke *late* callid mayster of game, hath dyscryved the myrthes of huntynge lyke as I thinke to dyscryve of it," &c. but the evidence

which it affords is of a very doubtful character. The treatise alluded to was written by Edmond of Langley Duke of York who died in 1402 and whose situation of "Mayster of the Game" is thus noticed by Hardyng,

"The Kyng then made the duke of Yorke by name
Maister of the new house, and his haukes fayre
Of his venery and Mayster of his game."

but the only positive inference which that sentence allows, is, that the writer had seen the treatise on Hunting, and that the royal author of it was then deceased; for from the great laxity of language at that period it would be very unsafe to consider that "*late* called Mayster of Game" meant, either that the Duke was then living, but no longer "Mayster of Game," or that "his name and person were recent in memory in time of the author."

Unfortunately there are no means by which the name of the Author of the *Treatyse* can be ascertained; and the opinion, expressed by Sir John Hawkins that, it was written by Dame Julian de Berners, is not only unsupported by even a shadow of proof, but it is negatived by the following circumstances. It does not occur in the first edition of the "Boke of St. Alban's" in 1486, and upon its introduction into that

work by Wynkyn de Worde, [★] he explains his motives for inserting it in a manner which almost establishes that it was not the production of that celebrated woman, or of either of those by whom she is supposed to have been assisted.

“ Here we shall make an ende of the moost specyall thynges of the boke of the lygnage of cote armurys, and how gentlymen shall be knowen from ungentlymen. And consequently shall folowe a compendious treatyse of fysshynge wyth an angle, whiche is right necessary to be had in this present volume: by cause it shewyth afore the manere of hawkyng and huntynge wyth other dyvers maters right necessary to be knowen of noble men and also for it is one of the dysportes that gentylmen use. And also it is not soo labororyous ne soo dishonest to fysshe in this wyse as it is w nettes and other engynes whyche crafty men do ne use for theyr dayly encrease of goodes.” But the conclusion is still more convincing, “ And for by cause that this present treatyse sholde not come to the hondys of eche ydle persone whyche wolde desire it yf it were enprynted allone by itself and put in a lytyll plaunflet therefore I have compyled it in a greter volume of dyverse bokys concernynge to gentyl and noble men, to the entent that the for-

* one of Caxton's assistants

sayd ydle persones whyche sholde have but lytyll mesure in the sayd dysporte of ffysshynge sholde not by this meane utterly dystroye it."

The latter passage, besides its importance in being, it is presumed, decisive of the point which it is cited to prove, is deserving of attention from the wish which it avows to confine information on Angling to the upper classes, who only could then afford to purchase a large volume; lest, if it was distributed among "ydle persones," by which the lower orders were probably meant, there would be so many skilful anglers as to leave but little sport for "gentylmen," who alone, in the writer's estimation, were entitled to such an amusement. The remark relative to a "lytyll plaunflet" favours the idea that a much greater number of articles of that description were then printed, and consequently that many more persons were able to read, than is commonly imagined.

The only MS. of the *Treatyse* which is known to be extant, is a fragment now in the possession of Joseph Haslewood, Esq. and which formerly belonged to Mr. William Herbert. It does not extend farther than the instructions relating to the bait for trout; and the different readings between it and the printed copies,

which are very few and unimportant, are minutely given by that accurate and indefatigable reviver of old English literature in his reprint of the Boke of St. Alban's.

It is not, however, merely as a literary curiosity that this *Treatyse* is of interest, for independently of the information which it contains of the state of Angling at the period in which it was written, there are some grounds for presuming that it suggested to Walton the idea of his popular "Complete Angler," for the most superficial reader cannot fail to be struck with the general resemblance between them. *The Treatyse of Fysshing wyth an Angle*, commences with some observations, which are remarkable for their truth and simplicity: and after comparing the pursuits of Hunting, Hawking and Fowling, with that of Angling, the preference is of course given to the latter. Then follow instructions for making tackle, rods, baits, &c., and a description of the most skilful manner of using them, together with an account of the various kinds of river fish and their respective merits as food; and the treatise is concluded by some admirable rules for the governance of the conduct of Anglers towards each other, and towards those whose lands they frequent, an observance of which, it

is emphatically added would secure "the blessinge of God and saynt Petyre whyche he theym graunte that wyth his precyous blood us boughte."

Thus it is manifest, that in the most important features, Walton has closely followed the *Treatyse*, and although he has much enlarged upon it, and introduced his remarks in a dialogue, there is so great a similarity between them, as to justify the opinion that if the original idea of his work was not derived from this tract, he was indebted to it in an eminent degree. In piety and virtue—in the inculcation of morality—in an ardent love for their art, and still more—in that placid and Christian spirit, for which the amiable Walton was so conspicuous, the early writer was scarcely inferior to his more celebrated successor. Nor ought the suggestion to offend the admirers of the latter, that judging from their writings upon the same subject, and making a proper allowance for the different state of manners in the 15th and 17th centuries, it would be difficult to find two more kindred spirits than the authors of "The Treatyse of Fysshynge with an Angle," and of "The Complete Angler."

To those then, who consider that the idea which has just been hazarded possesses some foundation, this little volume is an almost indispen-

fable companion to their favourite Walton; whilst to such as deny its justice, it will be scarcely less acceptable, for what zealous angler can be indifferent to the manner in which the art was practised by his forefathers?

January, 1827.

¶ HERE BEGYNNYTH
THE TREATYSE OF FYSSHYNGE
WYTH AN ANGLE.

SALAMON in his parablys fayth that a good spyryte makyth a flourynge aege, that is a fayre aege and a longe. And fyth it is foo: I aske this questyon, whiche ben the meanes and the causes that enduce a man in to a mery spyryte: Truly to my beste dyscrecon it semeth good dysportes and honest gamys in whom a man Joyeth without ony repentannce after. Thenne folowyth it y^t gode dysportes and honest games ben cause of mannys fayr aege and longe life. And therefore now woll I chose of foure good disportes and honest gamys, that is to wyte; of huntynge: hawkyng: fyshynge: and foulynge. The beste to my fymple dyscrecon whyche is fysshynge: callyd Anglynge wyth a rodde: and a lyne and an hoke. And therof to treate as my fymple wytte may suffice: both for the fayd reason of Salamon and also for the reason that phifyk makyth in this wyfe. ¶ Si tibi

deficient medici medici tibi fiant: hec tria mens
 leta labor et moderata dieta. ¶ Ye shall under-
 stonde that this is for to faye, Yf a man lacke
 leche or medycyne he shall make thre thynges his
 leche and medycyne: and he shall nede neuer no
 moo. The fyrste of theym is a mery thought.
 The seconde is labour not outrageo. The thyrde
 is dyete mesurable. Fyrste that yf a man wyll
 euer more be in mery thoughtes and have a
 gladd spyryte: he must eschewe all contraryous
 company and all places of debate where he
 myghte have any occasyons of malencoly. And
 yf he woll haue a labour not outrageous he must
 thenne ordeyne him to his hertys ease and plea-
 saunce wythout studye pensyfnesse or traueyle a
 mery occupacyon whyche maye reioyce his
 herte: and in whyche his spyrytes may haue a
 mery delyte. And yf he woll be dyetyd mesu-
 rably he must eschewe all places of ryotte whyche
 is cause of surfette and of fyknesse. And he
 must drawe him to places of swete ayre and hun-
 gry: And ete nourishable meetes and dyffyable
 also.

Now thenne woll I dyscryue the sayd dysportes
 and gamys to fynde the beste of theym as veryly

* Various

† duce

as I can, alle be it that the ryght noble and full
 worthy prynce the duke of Yorke late callid
 mayster of game hath discryued the myrthes of
 huntynge like as I thynke to dyscryue of it and
 of alle the other. For huntynge as to myn entent
 is to laboryous, for the hunter must alwaye
 renne and folowe his houndes: traueyllynge and
 swetyng full fore. He blowyth tyll hie lyppes
 blyfter. And whan he wenyth it be an hare full
 oft it is an hegge hogge. Thus he chasyth and
 wote not what. He comyth home at euyñ rayn
 beten pryckyd: and his clothes torne wete fhode
 all myry Some hounde losse: some surbat. Suche
 greues and many other hapyth vnto the hunter,
 whyche for dyspleysaunce of theym y^t loue it I dare
 not reporte. Thus truly me femyth that this is
 not the beste dysporte and game of the sayd foure.
 The dysporte and game of hawkyng is laboryous
 and noyouse also as me femyth. For often the
 fawkeners lefeth his hawkes as the hunter his
 houndes. Thenne is his game and his dysporte
 goon. Full often cryeth he and whystelyth tyll
 that he be ryght euyll a thurst. His hawke
 taketh a bowe and lyfte not ones on hym rewarde.
 whan he wold haue her for to flee: thenne woll

*** hounds
 droops and
 o' heds not once to his rewarde.*

she bathe. with mys fedyng she shall haue the Fronse: the Rye: the Cray and many other fykenesses that brynge them to the Sowfe. Thus by prouff this is not the beste dysporte and game of the sayd foure. The dysporte and game of fowlyng me femyth moost symple For in the wynter feason the fowler spedyth not but in the moost hardest and coldest weder: whyche is greuous. For whan he wolde goo to his gynnes he maye not for colde. Many a gynne and many a snare he makyth. Yet sorlyly dooth he fare. At morn tyde in the dewe he is weete shode unto his taylle. Many other suche I cowde tell: but drede of magre makith me for to leue. Thus me femyth that huntynge and hawkyng and also fowlyng ben so laborous and greuous that none of theym maye perfourme nor bi very meane that enduce a man to a mery spyryte: whyche is cause of his longe lyfe acordynge unto y^e sayd parable of Salamon: ¶ Dowteles thene folowyth it that it must nedes be the dysporte of fysshynge with an angle. For all other manere of fysshynge is also laborous and greuous: often makynge folkes full wete and colde, whyche many tymes hath be seen cause of grete Infirmytees. But the angler maye haue no

colde nor no dysease nor angre, but yf he be causer hymself. For he maye not lese at the moost but a lyne or an hoke: of whyche he may haue store plentee of his owne makynge, as this symple treatyse shall teche hym. So thenne his losse is not greuous. and other greyffes may he not haue, sauynge but yf ony fislhe breke away after that he is take on the hoke, or elles that he catche nought: whyche ben not greuous. For yf he faylle of one he maye not faylle of a nother, yf he dooth as this treatyse techyth; but yf there be nought in the water. And yet atte the leest he hath his holsom walke and mery at his ease. a swete ayre of the swete sauoure of the meede floures: that makyth hym hungry. He hereth the melodyous armony of fowles. He seeth the yonge swannes: heerons: duckes: cotes and many other foules wyth theyr brodes; whyche me femyth better than alle the noyse of houndys: the blastes of hornys and the scrye of foulis that hunters: fawkeners and foulers can make. And yf the angler take fyfslhe: surely thenne is there noo man merier than he is in his spyryte. ¶ Also who soo woll vse the game of anglynge: he must ryse erly, whiche thyng is prouffitable to man in this wyse, That is

to wyte : moost to the heele of his soule. For it shall cause hym to be holy. and to the heele of his body, For it shall cause him to be hole. Also to the encrease of his goodys. For it shall make hym ryche. As the olde englysshe prouerbe sayth in this wyse. ¶ who soo woll ryseerly shall be holy helthy and zely. ¶ Thus have I prouyd in myn entent that the dysporte and game of anglynge is the very meane and cause that enducith a man in to a mery spyryte : Whyche after the fayde parable of Salomon and the sayd doctryne of phifyk makyth a flourynge aege and a longe. And therefore to al you that ben vertuous : gentyll : and free borne I wryte and make this symple treatyse folowynge : by whyche ye may haue the full crafte of anglynge to dysport you at your luste : to the entent that your aege maye the more floure and the more lenger to endure.

YF ye woll be crafty in anglynge : ye must fyrste lerne to make your harnays, That is to wyte your rodde : your lynes of dyuers colours. After that ye must know how ye shall angle in what place of the water : how depe : and what time of day. For what manere of fysshe : in what wedyr How many impedymentes there ben in fysshynge y^t is

callyd anglynge And in specyall-wyth what baytys to euery dyuers fyssh in eche moneth of the yere. How ye shall make your baytes brede where ye shall fynde them: and how ye shall kepe theym. And for the moost crafty thyng how ye shall make youre hokes of stele and of osmonde, Some for the dubbe; and some for the flote; and the grounde. as ye shall here after al thyse fynde expressed openly vnto your knowlege.

¶ And how ye shall make your rodde craftly here I shall teche you. Ye shall kytte betwene Myghelmas and Candylmas a fayr staffe of a fadom and an halfe longe: and arme grete of hasyll: wylowe: or aspe. And bethe hym in an hote ouyn: and sette him euyn Thenne lete him cole and drye a moneth. Take thenne and frette hym faste wyth a cockeshotecorde: and bynde him to a fourme or an euyn square grete tree. Take thenne a plumers wire that is euyn and streyte and sharpe at the one end. And hete the sharpe ende in a charcole fyre tyll it be whyte: and brenne the staffe therwyth thorough: euer streyte in the pythe at both endes tyll they mete. And after that brenne hym in the nether ende wyth a byrde broche, and wyth other broches eche

gretter than other. and euer the gretteſt the laſte:
ſo that ye make your hole aye tapre wexe.
Thenne lete hym lye ſtyll and kele two dayes.
Unfrette hym thene and lete hym drye in an hous
roof in the ſmoke tyll he be through drye. ¶ In
the ſame ſeaſon take a fayr yerde of grene
haſyll and beth hym euyn and ſtreyghte. and lete
it drye with the ſtaffe. And whan they ben drye
make the yerde mete vnto the hole in the ſtaffe:
vnto halfe the length of the ſtaffe. And to per-
fourme that other halfe of the croppe. Take a
fayr ſhote of blacke thorn: crabbe tree: medeler.
or of Jenypre kytte in the ſame ſeaſon: and well
bethyd and ſtreyghte. And frette them togyder
ſetely: ſoo that the croppe maye iuſtly entre all
in to the fayd hole. Thenne ſhaue your ſtaffe and
make hym tapre wexe. Thenne vyrell the ſtaffe
at bothe endes wyth longe hopis of yron or laton
in the clenneſt wiſe wyth a pyke in the nether
ende faſtnyd with a rennyng vyce: to take in
and oute your croppe. Thenne ſet your croppe
an handfull within the ouer ende of your ſtaffe
in ſuche wiſe that it be as bigge there as in any
other place aboue. Thene arme your croppe at
thouer ende downe to y^e frette wyth a lyne of .vi.

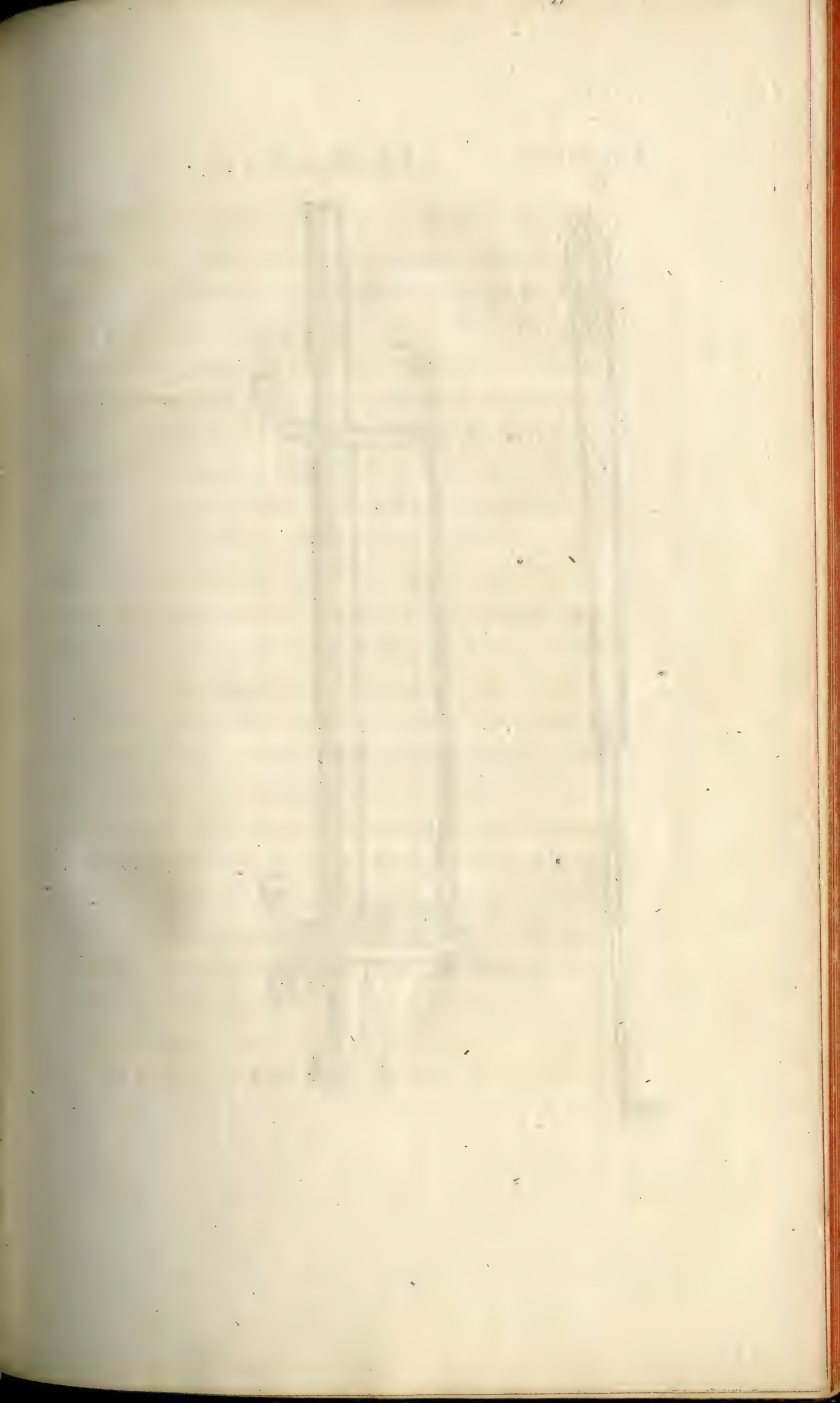
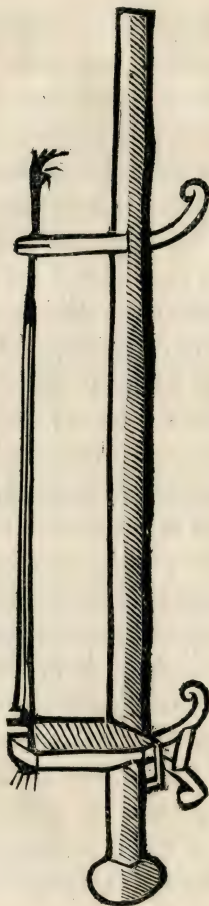


FIG. I. p. 9.



FIG. II. p. 13.



heeres. And dubbe the lyne and freette it fast in y^e toppe wyth a bowe to fasten on your lyne. And thus shall ye make you a rodde soo preuy that ye maye walke therwyth : and there shall noo man wyte where abowte ye goo. It woll be lyghte and full nymbyll to fyfthe wyth at your luste. And for the more redynesse loo here a fygure therof in example. : [A]

After that ye have made thus your rodde : ye must lerne to coloure your lynes of here in this wyse. Fyrste ye must take of a whyte horse taylle the lengest heere and fayrest that ye can fynde. And ever the rounder it be the better it is. Departe it in to .vj. partes : and euery parte ye shal colour by hymselfe in dyuers colours. As yelow : grene : browne : tawney : russet. and duske colours. And for to make a good grene colour on your heer ye shall doo thus. ¶ Take smalle ale a quarte and put it in a lytyll panne and put thereto halfe a pounce of alym. And put thereto your heer : and lete it boylle softly half an houre. Thenne take out your heer and lete it drye. Thenne take a potell of water and put it in a panne. And

[A] See Fig. 1.

put therein two handfull of ooldys or of wyxen. And presse it with a tyle stone: and lete it boylle softly half an houre. And whan it is yelow on the scume put therin your heer wyth halfe a pounce of coporose betyn in powdre and lete it boylle halfe a myle waye: and thenne sette it downe: and lete it kele fyve or syxe houres. Then take out the heer and drye it. And it is thenne the fynest grene that is for the water. And ever the more ye put therto of coporose the better it is. or elles in fiede of it vertgrees.

¶ A nother wyse ye maye make more bryghter grene, as thus Lete woode your heer in an woodefatte a lyght plunket colour And thenne fethe hym in olde or wyxin lyke as I have sayd: fauyngye ye shall not put therto neyther coporose ne vertgrees. ¶ For to make your heer yelow dyght it wyth alym as I haue sayd before. And after that wyth ooldys or wyxin wythout coporose or vertgrees. ¶ A nother yelow ye shal make thus. Take smalle ale a potell: and stampe thre handfull of walnot leues and put togider: And put in your heer tyll that it be as depe as ye woll haue it. ¶ For to make ruffet heer. Take stronge lye a pynt and halfe a pounce of fote and a lytyll iuce

of walnot leuys and a quarte of alym : and put theym alle togyder in a panne and boylle theym well. And whan it is colde put in youre heer tyll it be as derke as ye woll haue it. ¶ For to make a browne colour. Take a pounce of fote and a quarte of ale : and feth it wyth as many walnut leuys as ye maye. And whan they wexe blacke fette it from the fire And put therin your heer and lete it lye styll tyll it be as browne as ye woll haue it.

¶ For to make a nother browne. Take strong ale and fote and tempre them togyder. and put therin your heer two dayes and two nyghtes and it shall be ryght a good colour.

¶ For to make a tawney couloure. Take lyme and water and put theym togyder : and also put your heer therin foure or fyue houres. Thenne take it out and put it a Tanners ofe a day : and it shall be also fyne a tawney colour as nedyth to our purpoos ¶ The syxte parte of your heer ye shall kepe styll whyte for lynes for the dubbyd hoke to fysshe for the trougt and graylynge : and for smalle lynes for to rye for the roche and the darfe.

Whan your heer is thus colourid : ye must

knowe for whiche waters and for whyche seasons they shall serue.

¶ The grene colour in all clere water from Apryll tyll Septembre. ¶ The yelow colour in euery clere water from Septembre tyll Novembre: For it is lyke ye wedys and other manere grasse whiche growyth in the waters and ryuers whan they ben broken. ¶ The russet colour seruyth all the wynter vnto the ende of Apryll. as well in ryuers as in poles or lakys ¶ The browne colour seruyth for that water that is blacke dediffe in ryuers or in other waters. ¶ The tawney colour for those waters that ben hethy or morryshe.

Now must ye make your lynes in this wyse. Fyrst loke that ye haue an instrument lyke vnto this fygure portrayed folowyng. Thenne take your heer and kytte of the smalle ende an hondfull large or more, For it is neyther stronge nor yet sure. Thenne torne the toppe to the taylle eueryche ylyke moche. And departe it in to thre parties. Thenne knytte euery parte at the one ende by hymself. And at the other ende knytte all thre togyder: and put y^e fame ende in that other ende of your Instrument that hath but one

clyft. And fett that other ende fafte wyth the wegge foure fyngers in alle fhorter than your heer. Thenne twyne euery warpe one waye and ylyke moche: and faften theym in thee clyftes ylyke freyghte. Take thenne out that other ende and twyne it that waye that it woll defyre ynough. Thenne freyne it a lytyll: and knytte it for vndoyng: and that is good. And for to knowe to make your Instrumēt: loo here it is in fygure. And it fhall be made of tree fauyng the bolte vnderneath: which fhall be of yren. [B]

Whan ye haue as many of the lynkys as ye fuppoſe wol fuffyſe for the length of a lyne: thenne muſt ye knytte theym togyder wyth a water knotte or elles a duchys knotte. And whan your knotte is knytte: kytte of y^e voyde ſhorte endes a ſtrawe brede for the knotte. Thus ſhal ye make youre lynes fayr and fyne: and alſo ryght fure for ony manere fyſſhe. ¶ And by cauſe that ye ſholde knowe bothe the water knotte and alſo the duchys knotte: loo theym here in fygure caſte vnto the lykneſſe of the draughte. [C]

[B] See Fig. 2.

[C] A blank ſpace is here left in the original editions for the

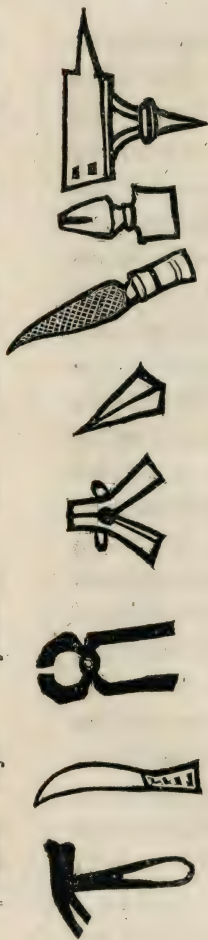
Ye shall vnderstonde that the moost subtyll and hardyste crafte in makynge of your harnays is for to make your hokis. For whoos makynge ye must haue fete fyles. thyn̄ and sharpe and smalle beten: A femy clam̄ of yren: a bender: a payr of longe and smalle tongys: an harde knyfe somdeale thicke: an anuelde: and a lytyll hamour. ¶ And for smalle fysshhe ye shall make your hokes of the smalest quarell nedlys that ye can fynde of stele, and in this wyse. ¶ Ye shall put the quarell in a redde charkcole fyre tyll that it be of the same colour that the fyre is. Thenne take hym out and lete hym kele: and ye shal fynde him well alayd for to fyle. Thenne reyse the berde with your knyfe, and make the poynt sharpe. Thenne alaye hym agayn: for elles he woll breke in the bendyng. Thenne bende hym lyke to the bende figuryd hereafter in example. [D] And greeter hokes ye shall mabe in the same wyse of gretter nedles: as broderers nedlis: or taylers: or shomakers nedlis spere poyntes and of shomakers nalles in especyall the beste for grete insertion of drawings of the water knot and the dutchess's knot. The former is described in Daniel's Rural Sports, vol. 2. p. 151, and Walton's Angler, by Hawkins, part 1. p. 255. and plate 10. fig. 5.: of the latter see the Ladies' Dictionary, Art. Appurtenances to Dressing.

[D] See Fig. 6.

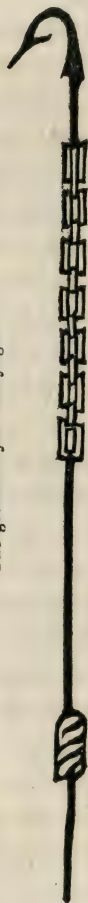
1874

FIG. III. p. 15.

Hamour. Knyfe. Pynsons. Clam. Wegge. Fyle. Wreste. and Annelde.



The grounde lyne rennyng.



The grounde lyne lyenge.



FIG. IV. p. 17.

fyfthe. and that they bende atte the poynt whan they ben affayed, for elles they ben not good. ¶ Whan the hoke is bendyd bete the hynder ende abrode: and fyle it fmothe for fretynge of thy lyne. Thenne put it in the fyre agayn: and yeue it an eafy redde hete. Thenne fodaynly quenche it in water: and it woll be harde and ftronge. And for to haue knowlege of your In-
strumentes: lo theym here in fygure por-
trayd. [E]

Whan ye haue made thus your hokis: thenne muft ye fet theym on your lynes acordynge in gretnesse and ftrength in this wyfe. ¶ Ye shall take fmalles redde filke. and yf it be for a grete hoke, theñe double it: not twynyd. And elles for fmale hokys lete it be fyngle: and therwyth frette thycke the lyne there as the one ende of your hoke fhall fyttē a ftrawe brede. Then fette there your hoke: and frette hym with the fame threde y^t two partes of the lengthe that fhall be frette in all. And whan ye come to the thirde parte thenne torne the ende of your lyne agayn vpon the frette dowble. and frette it fo dowble that other thyrde parte. Thenne put your threde in

[E] See Fig. 3.

at the hofe twys or thries and lete it goo at eche tyme rounde abowte the yerde of your hoke. Thenne wete the hofe and drawe it tyll that it be fafte. And loke that your lyne lye euermore wythin your hokys: and not without. Thenne kytte of the lynys ende and the threde as nyghe as ye maye: fauynge the frette.

Now ye knowe wyth how grete hokys ye shall angle to euery fyffhe: now I woll tell you wyth how many heeres ye shall to euery manere of fyffhe. ¶ For the menow wyth a lyne of one heere. For the waxyng roche: the bleke and the gogyn and the ruffe wy^t a lyne of two heeris. For the darfe and the grete roche wyth a lyne of thre heeres. For the perche: the flouder and bremet with foure heeres. For the cheuen chubbe: the breme: the tenche and the ele wyth .vj. heeres. For the troughte: graylynge: barbyll and the grete cheuyn wyth .ix. heeres. For the grete troughte wyth .xii. heeres: For the famon wyth .xv. heeres. And for the pyke wyth a chalke lyne made browne with your browne colour aforfayd: armyd with a wyre. as ye shal here hereafter whan I speke of the pyke.

¶ Your lynes must be plumbid wyth lede. And

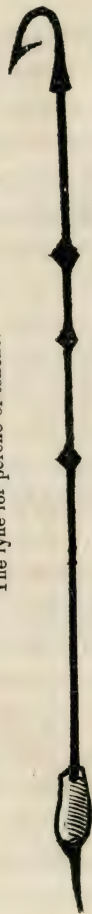


FIG. IV. p. 17. (*continued.*)

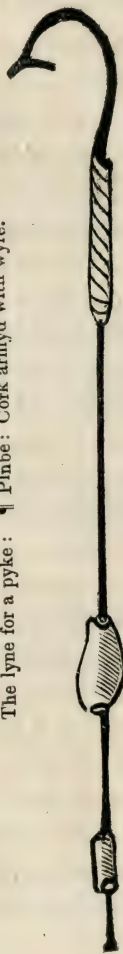
The flote lyne.



The lyne for perche or tenche.



The lyne for a pyke: ¶ Pl̄nbe: Cork armyd with wyre.



ye shall wyte y^t the nexte pūbe vnto the hoke shall be therfro a large fote and more, And euery plumbe of a quantyte to the gretnes of the lyne. There be thre manere of plūbis for a grounde lyne xennyngē. And for the flote set vpon the grounde lyne lyenge .x. plumbes joynyngē all togider. On the grounde lyne rennyngē ix. or .x. smalle. The flote plūbe shall be so heuy y the leest plucke of ony fysshe maye pull it downe in to y^e water. And make your plūbis rounde and smothe y^t they stycke not on stonys or on wedys. And for the more vnderstandyngē lo theym here in fygure. [F]

Thenne shall ye make your flotys in this wyse. Take a fayr corke that is clene without many holes. and bore it through wyth a smalle hote yren: And putt therin a penne iuste and freyghte. Ever the more flote the gretter penne and the greter hole. Thenne shape it grete in the myddis and smalle at bothe endys. and specially sharpe in the nether ende, and lyke vnto the fygures followyngē. [G] And make theym smothe on a gryndyng stone: or on a tyle stone. ¶ And loke that the flote for one heer be nomore

[F] See Fig. 4.

[G] See Fig. 5.

than a pese. For two heeres: as a beene. for twelue heeres: as a walnot. And soo euery lyne after the proporcon. ¶ All manere lynes that ben not for the groude must haue flotes. And the rennynge grounde lyne must haue a flote. The lyenge grounde lyne wythout flote.

Now I haue lernyd you to make all your har-nays. Here I woll tell you how ye shall angle. ¶ Ye shall angle: vnderstonde that there is .vi. manere of anglying. That one is at the grounde for the troughte and other fysshe. A nother is at y^e grounde at an arche, or at a stange where it ebbythand flowyth: for bleke: roche, and darfe. The thyrde is wyth a flote for all manere of fysshe. The fourth with a menow for y^e troughte wythout plumbe or flote. The fyfth is rennynge in y^e fame wyse for roche and darfe wyth one or two heeres and a flye. The fyxte is wyth a dubbyd hoke for the troughte and graylyng. ¶ And for the fyrste and pryncypall poynt in anglynge, kepe y euer fro the water fro the sighte of the fysshe: other ferre on the londe; or ellys be-hynde a busshe that the fysshe se you not. For yf they doo they wol not byte. ¶ Also loke that ye shadow not the water as moche as ye may. For it is that thyng that woll soone fraye the fysshe.

And yf a fyssh be afrayed he woll not bite longe after. For alle manere fyssh that fede by the grounde ye shall angle for theim to the botom: soo that your hokys shall renne or lye on the grounde. And for alle other fyssh that fede aboue ye shall angle to theym in the myddes of the water or somedeale byneth or somedeale aboue. For ever the gretter fyssh the nerer he lyeth the botom of the water. And euer the smaller fyssh the more he swymyth aboue. ¶ The thyrde good poynt is whan the fyssh bytyth that ye be not to hasty to smyte nor to late, For ye must abide tyll ye suppose that the bayte be ferre in the mouth of the fyssh, and thenne abyde noo longer. And this is for the groude. ¶ And for the flote whan ye se it pullyd softly vnder the water: or elles caryed vpon the water softly: thenne smyte. And loke that ye neuer ouersmyte the strengthe of your lyne for brekyng. ¶ And yf it fortune you to smyte a grete fyssh with a small harnays, thenne ye must lede hym in the water and labour him there tyll he be drownyd and ouercome. Thenne take hym as well as ye can or maye. And euer be waar that ye holde not ouer the strengthe of your lyne. And as moche as ye may lete

hym not come out of your lynes ende streyghte from you : But kepe hym euer vnder the rodde, and euermore holde hym streyghte : soo that your lyne may susteyne and beere his lepyes and his plungys wyth the helpe of your cropp : and of your honde.

Here I woll declare vnto you in what place of the water ye shall angle. Ye shall angle in a pole or in a stondinge water in euery place where it is ony thyng depe. There is not grete choyse of ony places where it is ony thyng depe in a pole. For it is but a pryson to fyfhe. and they lyve for y^e more parte in hungre lyke prisoners: and therefore it is the lesse maystry to take theym. But in a ryuer ye shall angle in euery place where it is depe and clere by the grounde : as grauell or claye wythout mudde or wedys. And in especyall yf that there be a manere whyrlynge of water or a couert. As an holow banke : or grete rotys of trees: or longe wedys fletyng aboue in the water where the fyfhe maye couere and hyde theymsel at certayn tymes whan they lyfte Also it is good for to angle in depe styffe stremys, and also in fallys of waters and weares, and in flood gatys

and mylle pyttes. And it is good for to angle where as the water restyth by the banke: and where the streame rennyth nyghe there by: and is depe and clere by the grounde and inony other placys where ye may se ony fyssh houe or haue ony fedyng.

Now yeshall wyte what tyme of the daye ye shall angle. ¶ From the begynnynge of May untill it be Septembre the bytynge tyme is erly by the morowe from foure of y^e clocke vnto eyghte of the clocke. And at after none from foure of the clocke unto eyghte of the clocke: but not soo good as is in the mornynge. And yf it be a colde whyftelyng wynde and a derke lowringe daye. For a derke daye is moche better to angle in than a clere daye. ¶ From the begynnynge of Septembre unto the ende of Apryll spare noo tyme of the daye: ¶ Also many pole fysshes woll byte beste in the none tyde. ¶ And yf ye se ony tyme of the daye the troughte or graylynge lepe; angle to hym wyth a dubbe acordynge to the same month. And where the water ebbyth and flowyth the fysshe woll byte in some place at the ebbe: and in some place at the flood. After y^t they haue restynge behynde

stangynys and archys of brydgys and other fuche manere places.

Here ye shall wyte in what weder ye shall angle. as I sayd before in a derke lowrynge daye whanne the wynde blowyth softly. And in fomer seafon whan it is brennynge hote thenne it is nought. ¶ From Septembre vnto Apryll in a fayr sonny daye is ryght good to angle. And yf the wynde in that seafon have ony parte of the Oryent: the wedyr thenne is nought. And whan it fnowith reynyth or hayllyth. or is a grete tempeste, as thondyr, or lightenyng: or a swoly hote weder: thenne it is noughte for to angle.

¶ Now shall ye wyte that there ben twelue manere of ympedymentes whyche cause a man to take noo fyssh. w^out other comyn that maye casuelly happe. The fyrst is yf your harnays be not mete nor fetly made. The seconde is yf your baytes be not good nor fyne. The thyrde is yf that ye angle not in bytynge tyme. The fourth is yf that the fyssh be frayed w^o the fyghte of a man. The fyfth yf the water be very thycke: whyte or redde of ony floode late fallen. The syxte yf the fyssh styre not for

colde. The feuenth yf that the wedyr be hote. The eyght yf it rayne. The nynthe if it hayll or fnow falle. The tenth is yf it be a tempefte. The enleuenth is yf it be a grete wynde. The twelfyfth yf the wynde be in the Eeft, and that is worfte For comynly neyther wynter nor fomer y^e fyffhe woll not byte thenne. The wefte and northe wyndes ben good but the fouth is befte.

And now I haue tolde you how to make your harnays : and how ye fhall fyffhe therwyth in al poyntes. Reason woll that ye knowe wyth what baytes ye fhall angle to euery manere of fyffhe in euery moneth of the yere, whyche is all the effecte of the crafte. And wythout whyche baytes knowen well by you all your other crafte here toforn auayllyth you not to purpofe. For ye can not brynge an hoke in to a fyffh mouth wythout a bayte. Whiche baytes for euery manere of fyffh and for euery moneth here folowyth in this wyfe.

For by caufe that the Samon is the mooft ftately fyffh that ony man maye angle to in freffh water. Therefore I purpofe to begyn at hym. ¶ The samon is a gentyll fyffhe : but he is comborous

for to take. For comynly he is but in depe places of grete ryuers. And for the more parte he holdyth the myddys of it: that a man maye not come at hym. And he is in feason from Marche vnto Myghelmas. ¶ In whyche feason ye shall angle to hym wyth thyfe baytes whan ye maye gete theym. Fyrste wyth a redde worme in the begynnyng and endyng of the feason. And also wyth a bobbe that bredyth in a dung-hyll and specyally with a fouerayn bayte that bredyth on a water docke. ¶ And he bytith not at the grounde: but at y^e flote. Also ye may take hym: but it is seldom seen with a dubbe at suche tyme as whan he lepith in lyke fourme and manere as ye doo take a troughte or a gryalyng. And thyfe baytes ben well prouyd baytes for the famon.

The troughte for by cause he is a right deyntous fyssh and also a right feruente-byter we shall speke nexte of hym. He is in feason from Marche vnto Myghelmas. He is on clene gravely groude and in a streame. Ye may angle to hym all tymes wyth a grounde lyne lyenge or rennyng: fauyng in lepyng time. and thenne with a dubbe. And erly wyth a rennyng

* faintly (?)
a trout

grounde lyne. and forth in the daye wyth a flote
 lyne. ¶ Ye shall angle to hym in Marche wyth a
 menew hangyd on your hoke by the nether nesse
 without flote or plumbe: drawynge vp and
 downe in the streame tyll ye fele hym faste. ¶ In
 the same tyme angle to hym with a groude lyne
 with a redde worme for the moost sure. ¶ In
 Aprill take the same baytes: and also Inneba
 other wyse namyd .vii. eyes. Also the canker
 that bredyth in a grete tree and the redde snayll.
 ¶ In May take y^e stone flye and the bobbe vnder
 the cowe torde and the fylke worme: and the
 bayte that bredyth on a fern leyf. In Juyn
 take a redde worme and nyppe of the heed: and
 put on thyn hoke a codworme byforn. In Juyll
 take the grete redde worme and the codworme
 togyder. ¶ In August take a flesshe flye and the
 grete redde worme and the fatte of the ba-
 kon: and bynde abowte thy hoke. ¶ In Sep-
 tembre take the redde worme and the menew.
 ¶ In Octobre take the same: for they ben specyall
 for the trought all tymes of the yere. From
 Aprill tyll Septembre y^e trough lepyth. thenne
 angle to hym with a dubbyd hoke accordynge
 to the moneth, whych dubbyd hokys ye shall

H

Point

7 prepared
(baited)

+ in front

the end

fynde in thende of this treatyse: and the monethys wyth them. :

The grayllynge by a nother name callyd vm-bre is a delycyous fyfthe to mannys mouthe. And ye maye take hym lyke as ye doo the trougt. And thyse ben his baytes. ¶ In Marche and in Apryll the redde worme. ¶ In May the grene worme: a lytyll breyled worme: the docke canker. and the hawthorn worme. ¶ In June the bayte that bredyth betwene the tree and the barke of an oke. ¶ In Juyl a bayte that bredyth on a fern leyf: and the grete redde worme. And nyppe of the hede: and put on your hoke a codworme before. ¶ In August the redde worme: and a docke worme. And al the yere after a redde worme.

The barbyll is a fwete fyfthe, but it is a quasy meete & a peryllous for mannys body. For comynly he yeuyth an introduction to y^e Febres. And yf he be eten rawe: he maye be cause of mannys dethe: whyche hath oft be seen. Thyse be his baytes. ¶ In Marche & in Apryll take fayr fresshe chese: and lay it on a borde & kytte it in small square pecys of the lengthe of your hoke. Take thenne a candyl & brenne it on

the ende at the poynt of your hoke tyll it be yelow. And theñe bynde it on your hoke with fletchers fylke: and make it rough lyke a welbede. This bayte is good all the somer season. ¶ In May & June take y^e hawthorn worme & the grete redde worme. and nyppe of the heed. And put on your hoke a codworme before. & that is a good bayte. In Juyll take the redde worme for cheyf & the hawthorn worme togyd. Also the water docke leyf worme & the hornet worme togyder. ¶ In August & for all the yere take the talowe of a shepe & softe chese of eche ylyke moche: and a lytyll hony & grynde or stampe theym togyd longe. and tempre it tyll it be tough. And put therto floure a lytyll & make it on smalle pellettys. And y^r is a good bayte to angle wyth at the grounde And loke that it synke in the water. or ellys it is not good to this purpoos.

The carpe is a deyntous fyssh: but there ben but fewe in Englonde. And therfore I wryte the lasse of hym. He is an euyll fyssh to take. For he is soo stronge enarmyd in the mouthe that there maye noo weke harnays holde hym. And as touchynge his baytes I

+ arrow-maker's

of each the same much (quantity)

have but lytyll knowlege of it And me were loth to wryte more than I knowe & haue provyd. But well I wote that the redde worme & the menow been good batys for hym at all tymes as I haue herde faye of persones credyble & also founde wryten in bokes of credence

The cheuyn is a stately fyssh: & his heed is a deyty morsell. There is noo fyssh so strongly enarmyd wyth scalyss on the body. And bi cause he is a stronge byter he hathe the more baytes, which ben thyse. ¶ In Marche the redde worme at the grounde: For comynly thenne he woll bite there at all tymes of y^e yere yf he be ony thinge hungry. ¶ In Apryll the dyche canker that bredith in the tree. A worme that bredith betwene the rynde & the tree of an oke The redde worme: and the yonge frosshys whan the fete ben kyt of. Also the stone flye the bobbe vnder the cowe torde: the redde snaylle. ¶ In May y^e bayte that bredyth on the ofyer leyf & the docke canker togyd vpon your hoke. Also a bayte that bredyth on a fern leyf. y^e codworme and a bayte that bredyth on an hawthorn. And a bayte that bredyth on an oke leyf & a fylke worme and a codworme togyder. ¶ In June take

frogs

cut

together

o osier (red)

the creket & the dorre & also a red worme: the heed kytte of & a codworme before: and put theym on y^e hoke. Also a bayte in the ofyer leyf: yonge frosshys the three fete kitte of by the body: and the fourth by the knee. The bayte on the hawthorn and the codworme togyder & a grubbe that bredyth in a dunghyll: and a grete gresshop. ¶ In Juyll the gresshop and the humbylbee in the medow. Also yonge bees & yonge hornettes. Also a grete brended flye that bredith in pathes of medowes & the flye that is amonge pysmeers hyllys. ¶ In August take wortwormes & magotes vnto Myghelmas. ¶ In Septembre the redde worme: & also take the baytes whan ye may gete theym: that is to wyte, Cheryes: yonge myce not heryd: & the house combe.

The breeme is a noble fyssh & a deyntous. And ye shall angle for hym from Marche vnto August wyth a redde worme: & theñe wyth a butter flye & a grene flye. & with a bayte that bredyth amonge grene rede: and a bayte that bredyth in the barke of a deed tree. ¶ And for bremettis. take maggotes. ¶ And fro that tyme forth all the yere after take the red worme: and in the ryuer browne breede. Moo baytes there

ben but they ben not easy & therfore I lete theym pafse over.

A Tenche is a good fyssh, and heelith all manere of other fysshe that ben hurte yf they maye come to hym. He is the most parte of the yere in the mudde. And he styryth moost in June & July: and in other seasons but lytyll. He is an euyll byter. his baytes ben thyse. For all the yere browne breede tostyde wyth hony in lyknesse of a butteryd loof: and the grete redde worme. And as for cheyf take the blacke blood in y^e herte of a shepe and floure and hony. And tempre theym all togyder somdeall softer than paaft: and anoynt therwyth the redde worme: bothe for this fysshe and for other. And they wolle byte moche the better therat at all times.

¶ The perche is a daynteuous fysshe and passynge holsom and a freebytyng. Thise ben his baytes. In Marche the redde worme. In Aprill the bobbe vnder the cowe torde. In Maye the slothorn worme and the codworme. In June the bayte that bredith in an olde fallen oke & the grete canker. In Juyll the bayte that bredyth on the osyer leyf and the bobbe that bredeth

on the dung hyll: and the hawthorn worme & the codworme. In August the redde worme & maggotes. All the yere after the red worme as for the beste.

¶ The roche is an easy fyssh to take: And yf he be fatte & pennyd thenne is he good meete. & thys ben his baytes. In Marche the most redy bayte is the red worme. In Apryll the bobbe vnder the cowe torde. In May the bayte y^e bredyth on the oke leyf & the bobbe in the dunghyll. In June the bayte that bredith on the osyer & the codworme. In Juyl hous flyes. and the bayte that bredith on an oke. and the notworme & mathewes & maggotes tyll Myghelmas. And after y^e the fatte of bakon.

¶ The dace is a gentyll fyssh to take. & yf it be well refet then is it good meete. In Marche his bayte is a redde worme. In Apryll the bobbe vnder the cowe torde. In May the docke canker and the bayte on y^e slothorn and on the oken leyf. In June the codworme & the bayte on the osyer and the whyte grubbe in y^e dunghyll. In Juyl take hous flyes & flyes that brede in pyfmer hylles: the codworme & mag-

* dresat from old Eng. Reasen to him

gotes vnto Mighelmas. And yf the water be clere ye shall take fyssh when other take none And fro that tyme forth doo as ye do for the roche. For comynly theyr bytynge & theyr baytes ben lyke.

¶ The bleke is but a feble fyssh. yet he is holsom His baytes from Marche to Myghelmas be the same that I haue wryten before. For the roche and darfe fauyng all the former season asmoche as ye maye angle for hym wyth an house flye: and in wynter season w^t bakon & other bayte made as ye hereafter may know.

¶ The ruf is ryght an holsom fyssh: And ye shall angle to him wyth the same baytes in al seasons of the yere & in the same wise as I haue tolde you of the perche: for they ben lyke in fyssh & fedinge, favyng the ruf is lesse. And therefore he must haue y^e smaller bayte,

¶ The flounder is an holsom fyssh & a free. and a subtyll byter in his manere: For comynly whan he soukyth his meete he fedyth at grounde. and therefore ye must angle to hym wyth a grounde lyne lyenge. And he hath but one manere of bayte. & that is a red worme. which is moost cheyf for all manere of fyssh. ¶ The gogen

is a good fyssh of the mochenes: & he byteth wel at the grounde. And his baytes for all the yere ben thys. y^e red worme: codworme: & maggotes. And ye must angle to him wth a flote. & lete your bayte be nere y^e botom or ellis on y^e grōnde.

¶ The menow whan he shynith in the water then is he byttyr And though his body be lytyll yet he is a rauenous biter & an egre. And ye shall angle to hym wyth the same baytes that ye doo for the gogyn: sauyng they must be smalle.

¶ The ele is a quasy fyssh a rauenour & a devourer of the brode of fyssh. And for the pyke also is a deuourer of fyssh I put them bothe behynde all other to angle. For this ele ye shall fynde an hole in the grounde of the water. & it is blewe blackfyssh there put in youre hoke tyll that it be a fote wythin y^e hole. and your bayte shall be a grete angyll twytch or a menow.

¶ The pyke is a good fyssh: but for he deuouryth so many as well of his owne kynde as of other: I loue hym the lesse. and for to take hym ye shall doo thus. Take a codlynge hoke: and take a roche or a fresshe heering & a

wyre wyth an hole in the ende: and put it in at the mouth & out at the taylle downe by the ridge of the fresshe heeryng. And thenne put the lyne of your hoke in after. & drawe the hoke in to the cheke of y^e fresshe heeryng. Then̄ put a plumbe of lede upon your lyne a yerde longe from youre hoke & a flote in myd-waye betwene: & caste it in a pytte where the pyke vfyth. And this is the beste & moost surest crafte of takynge the pyke. ¶ Another manere takynge of hym there is. Take a frosshe & put it on your hoke at the necke bytwene the skynne & the body on y^e backe half: & put on a flote a yerde therfro: & caste it where the pyke hauntyth & ye shall haue hym. ¶ Another manere. Take the same bayte & put it in Afa-fetida & cast it in the water wyth a corde & a corke: & ye shall not fayll of hym. And yf ye lyst to haue a good spote: thenne tye the corde to a gose fote: & ye shall se god halyng whether the gose or the pyke shall haue the better.

Now ye wote with what baytes & how ye shall angle to euery manere fyssh. Now I woll tell you how ye shall kepe & fede your quicke

baytes. Ye shall fede & kepe them all in general: but euery manere by hymself wyth suche thyng, in and on whiche they brede. And as longe as they ben quycke & newe they ben fyne. But whan they ben in a flough or elles deed thenne ben they nought Oute of thyse ben excepted thre brodes: That is to wyte of hornettys: humbylbees. & waspys. whom ye shall bake in breede & after dyppe theyr heedes in blode & lete them drye. Also excepte maggotes: whyche whan thei ben bredde grete wyth theyr naturell fedyng: ye shall fede theym furthermore wyth shepes talow & wyth a cake made of floure & hony. thenne woll they be more grete. And when ye haue clenfyd theym wyth sonde in a bagge of blanket kepte hote vnder your gowne or other warm thyng two houres or thre. then ben they beste & redy to angle wyth. And of the frosshe kytte ye legge by the knee. of the grasshop the leggys & wyngys by the body.

¶ Thyse ben baytes made to laste all the yere. Fyrste been floure & lene flesshe of the hepis of a cony or of a catte: virgyn waxe & shepys talowe: & braye theym in a morter: And thenne

tempre it at the fyre wyth a lytyll purifyed hony: & foo make it vp in lytyll ballys & bayte therwyth your hokys after theyr quantyte. & this is a good bayte for all manere fresshe fyssh.

¶ A nother. take the sewet of a shepe & chese in lyke quantyte: & braye theim togider longe in a mortere: And take thenne floure & tempre it therwyth. and after that alaye it wyth hony & make ballys therof. and that is for the barbyll in especyall.

bird ¶ Another for darfe. & roche & bleke. take whete & fethe it well & thenne put it in blood all a daye & a nyghte. & it is a good bayte.

¶ Forbaytes for grete fyssh kepe specyally this rule. Whan ye haue take a grete fyssh: vndo the mawe. & what ye fynde therin make that your bayte: for it is beste.

¶ Thyse ben the .xij. flyes wyth whyche ye shall angle to ye tought & grayllyng, and dubbe *birds* lyke as ye shall now here me tell.

¶ Marche

dun (brown) The-donne flye the body of the donne woll & the wyngis of the pertryche. A nother doone flye. the body of blacke woll: the wynges of the

pertryche *wood*

blackyst drake: aud the Jay vnd the wynges & vnder the tayll.

¶ Apryll

¶ The stone flye. the body of blacke wull: & yelowe vnder the wynges. & vnder the taylor & the wynges of the drake. In the begynnynge of May a good flye. the body of roddy wull & lappid abowte wyth blacke fylke: the wynges of the drake & of the redde capons hakyll.

¶ May

¶ The yelow flye. the body of yelow wull: the wynges of the redde cocke hakyll & of the drake lyttyd yelow. The blacke louter. the body of blacke wull & lappyd abowte wyth the herle of y^e pecok tayll: & the wynges of y^e redde capon w: a blewe heed.

(hard)
barb of a
feather

¶ June

¶ The donne cutte: the body of blacke wull & a yelow lyfte after eyther fyde: the wynges of the bofarde bounde on with barkyd hempe. The maure flye. the body of doske wull the wynges of the blackest mayle of the wylde drake. The tandy flye at faynt Wyllyams daye. the body of tandy wull & the wynges contrary eyther ayenst other of the whitest mayle of y^e wylde drake.

wing (all right)

against

¶ Juyll

¶ The waspe flye. the body of blacke wull & lappid abowte w^t yellow threde: the winges of the bosarde. The shell flye at faynt Thomas daye. the body of grene wull & lappyd abowte wyth the herle of the pecoks tayll: wynges of the bosarde.

¶ August

¶ The drake flye. the body of blacke wull & lappyd abowte wyth blacke fylke: wynges of the mayll of the blacke drake wyth a blacke heed.

¶ Thyse fygyres are put here in ensample of your hoke [H].

¶ Here folowyth the order made to all those whiche shall haue the vnderstondynge of this forsayd treatyse & vse it for theyr pleasures.

Ye that can angle & take fyssh to your pleasures as this forsayd treatyse techyth & shewyth you: I charge & requyre you in the name of alle noble men that ye fyssh not in noo poore mannes feuerall water: as his ponde: stewe: or other necessary thynges to kepe fyssh in wythout his

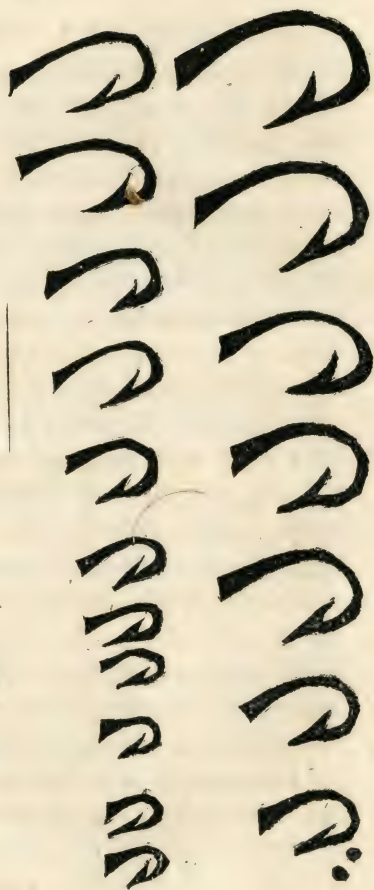
[H]. See Fig. 6.

x pond

FIG. V. p. 17.



FIG. VI. p. 38.



lycence & good wyll. ¶ Nor that ye vse not to breke noo mannys gynnys lyenge in theyr weares & in other places due vnto theym. Ne to take the fyssh away that is taken in theym. For after a fyssh is taken in a mannys gynne yf the gynne be layed in the comyn waters: or elles in fuche waters as he hireth, it is his owne propre goodes. And yf ye take it away ye robbe hym: whyche is a ryght shamfull dede to ony noble man to do y^e that theuys & brybours done: whyche are punysshed for theyr evyll dedes by the necke & otherwyse whan they maye be aspyed & taken. And also yf ye doo in lyke manere as this treatise shewyth you: ye shal haue no nede to take of other menys: whiles ye shal haue ynough of your owne takyng yf ye lyfte to labour therfore. whyche shall be to you a very pleasure to se the fayr bryght shy-nyng scalyd fysshes dysceyved by your crafty meanes & drawen vpon londe. ¶ Also that ye breke noo mannys heggys in goynge abowte your dysportes: ne opyn noo mannes gates but that ye shytte theym agayn. ¶ Also ye shall not vse this forsayd crafty dysporte for no covetyfenes to thencreasyng & sparyng of your mo-

hedges = the old English 99 = 29

the mowing

ney oonly, but pryncypally for your solace & to
cause the helthe of your body. and specyally of
your soule. For whanne ye purpoos to goo on
your dysportes in fysshynge ye woll not desyre
gretly many perfones wyth you. whiche myghte
lette you of your game. And thenne ye maye
serue God deuowtly in sayenge affectuoussly
youre custumable prayer. And thus doynge ye
shall eschewe & voyde many vices. as ydylnes
whyche is pryncypall cause to enduce man to
many other vyces. as it is ryght well knowen.
¶ Also ye shall not be to rauenous in takyng of
your sayd game as to moche at one tyme:
whiche ye maye lyghtly doo yf ye doo in euery
poynt as this present treatyse shewyth you in
euery poynt. whyche lyghtly be occasyon to dy-
stroye your owne dysportes & other mennys also.
As whan ye haue a sufficyent mese ye sholde
coveyte nomore as at that tyme. ¶ Also ye shall
besye yourfelfe to nouryssh the game in all that
ye maye: & to dystroye all such thynges as ben
devourers of it. ¶ And all those that done after
this rule shall haue the blessinge of god & faynt
Petryr, whyche he theym graunte that wyth his
precyous blood vs boughte.

¶ And for by cause that this present treatyse sholde not come to the hondys of eche ydle persone whyche wolde desire it yf it were enpryntyd allone by itself & put in a lytyll plaunflet therefore I have compyld it in a greter volume of dyverse bokys concernynge to gentyll & noble men to the entent that the forsayd ydle perones whyche sholde have but lytyll mesure in the fayd dysporte of fysshynge sholde not by this meane utterly dystroye it.

EMPRYNTED AT WESTMESTRE BY WYNKYN
THE WORDE THE YERE THYNCAON
OF OUR LORDE M.CCCC. LXXXVI.

